

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Charles J. Winslow et al.

Examiner: Julian W. Woo

Serial No.: 08/889,661

Group Art Unit: 3309

Filed: July 8, 1997

Docket: 203-1782 CON (1791 CON)

For: OPEN POSTERIOR LUMBAR  
FUSION CAGE INSERTION SET

Dated: October 10, 1997

Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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GROUP 3300

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the application as set forth hereinbelow.

IN THE CLAIMS:

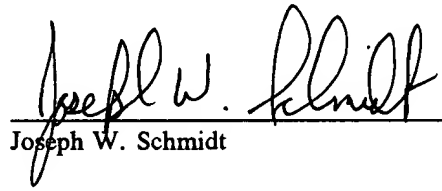
Please cancel claim 1 without prejudice.

2. (Amended) [The] A method [according to claim 1 wherein the distal end portion of the elongate member includes] for performing a surgical procedure, comprising the steps of:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on October 10, 1997.

Dated: October 10, 1997

  
Joseph W. Schmidt